be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce any modification in the Coastal Zone Management Plan as requested by the Government of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) An Expert Committee has been constituted to examine the representation of Government of Kerala regarding implementation of provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification. The Ministry would take a decision upon receipt of the report of the Expert Committee.

[Translation]

Sale of Agricultural Inputs

583. *SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :*

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a central cell to check the sale of substandard agricultural inputs to the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Standard specifications for various fertilisers to regulate quality have been specified under Fertiliser Control Orders '85, (FCO '85) issued under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (ECA '55). Fertilisers Conforming to prescribed standards are only allowed to be sold to the farmers. Enforcement of the FCO '85 has been entrusted to State Governments. Fertiliser Inspectors have been appointed by Central and State Governments to draw samples of fertilisers and get analysed in the fertiliser quality control laboratories set up by Central and State Governments. State Governments are empowered to take legal action against offenders as per provisions of the FCO '85/ECA '55.

As regards seeds, the Seeds Act, 1966 and Seed (Control) Order, 1983 are having sufficient provisions to check the supply of substandard seeds to the farmers. Implementation of Seeds Act and Seed (Control) Order, 1983 is vested with the State Governments and UTs for which Seed Inspectors are notified by the State Governments.

For monitoring the quality of pesticides, the Central Government prescribes various parameters while granting registration under the Insecticides Act, 1968 and the rules framed thereunder. The States/UTs have notified four important functionaries viz. Licencing Officer, Appellate Authority, Insecticides Analysis and Insecticides Inspectors for implementing the various provisions of the Act. The notified Insecticides Inspectors draw samples from the manufacturing units and distribution/sale points and get them analysed in the Pesticides Testing Laboratories by the notified Insecticides Analysts.

National Minorities Finance Corporation

584. *SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :*

(a) the amount allotted to National Minorities Finance Corporation (NMFC) by the Government till date,

(b) the details of the amount given to each State by the NMFC;

(c) the State-wise details of the amount distributed out of this by the Minorities Corporation of the respective States;

(d) whether Government are aware that the loan procedure of the Corporation for the selection of beneficiaries has given pay to corruption; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to prevent the same ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Out of the Rs. 500 Crores authorised Equity Share Capital of the Corporation, of which 25% and 75% comprises of the Share Capital contribution by the Centre and States respectively. The following amount has been subscribed by the Central and the State Governments :

		(Rs. in crores)
I.	Govt. of India	107.00
II.	Govt. of Uttar Pradesh	7.00
	Govt. of Bihar	5.00
	Govt. of Andhra Pradesh	1.00
	Govt. of Karnataka	1.00
	Govt. of Kerala	1.00
	Govt. of Himachal Pradesh	0.06
		15.06

Rs. 18.00 crore of Central Government share out of Rs. 125.00 crore for VIII Plan, is being released shortly.

(b) and (c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) The selection of beneficiaries is done by the respective State Channelising Agencies through the district administration. The cases relating to any irregularity in beneficiary identification is looked into by the State Channelising Agency. So far no specific information evincing the fact that there has been irregularities on account of procedural inadequacy has been brought to the knowledge of the Government.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

The state-wise details of amount given to States by the Corporation and State-wise details of amount distributed by the Minority Corporation of States/ State Channelising Agencies.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	Allocation made by National Minorities dev. and Fin. Corpn.	Amount disbursed by State Minority Corpns./ Channelising Agencies
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	151.14	135.15
2.	Assam	75.29	-
3.	Bihar	1017.45	-
4.	Chandigarh	20.40	-
5.	Gujarat	604.40	-
6.	Himachal Pradesh	26.91	-
7.	Haryana	190.08	93.45
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	508.08	112.84
9.	Kerala	962.05	449.69
10.	Karnataka	724.09	277.09
11.	Meghalaya	5.82	-
12.	Maharashtra	950.83	582.95
13.	Manipur	65.04	-
14.	Madhya Pradesh	695.87	136.30
15.	Mizoram	47.00	7.86
16.	Punjab	796.92	313.88
17.	Tamil Nadu	620.75	464.00
18.	Tripura	10.90	2563.43
19.	Uttar Pradesh	5127.62	-
20.	West Bengal	931.77	-
	Total	13532.41	5136.44

[English]

Restrictions on Import of Foodgrains

585. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had decided to resist any move by the Government to commit the country for removing the quantitative restrictions on the import of foodgrains at World Trade negotiations;

(b) whether being a member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), India is under obligation to convert all quantitative restrictions on imports into tariffs;

(c) if so, the manner in which it is proposed to oppose WTO pressure;

(d) whether the impact of PEPSI experience on agriculture and employment has also been studied; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURNAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) entered into force on a provisional basis in January, 1948 as the only multi-lateral instrument laying down agreed rules for international trade. India was a founding member of the GATT with formal membership dating from 1948. After successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of Multi-lateral Trade Negotiations in December, 1993 the WTO came into being w.e.f. 1st January, 1995 and India is an original member of the WTO.

One of the basic disciplines incorporated in GATT 1947 and carried forward to GATT 1994 pertains to quantitative restrictions (QRs). Article XI of GATT prohibits use of QRs since the basic philosophy of GATT is that import is to be controlled through tariffs only. There are, however, a number of exceptions to the stipulations against